

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 120351

21

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 120351

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU, CY

SUBJECT: GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS

1. ON INSTRUCTIONS, GREEK AMBASSADOR PANAYOTACOS TOOK ADVANTAGE OF COURTESY CALL ON ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY STABLER TO REPORT THAT GREEK-TURKISH TENSIONS OVER AEGEAN HAVE RECENTLY SUBSIDED, THAT GOG IS WILLING TO "EXCHANGE VIEWS" WITH GOT ON THIS ISSUE, AND THAT HIS GOVERNMENT ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO GREEK-TURKISH FRIENDSHIP. PANAYOTACOS REITERATED, HOWEVER, THAT GREEK POSITION, BASED ON 1958 GENEVA CONVENTION, IS LEGALLY CORRECT AND THAT "THERE IS NOTHING TO NEGOTIATE".

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PAGE 02 STATE 120351

AEGEAN DISPUTE, HE SAID, WOULD BE DISCUSSED DURING

OTTAWA NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING.

2. ON CYPRUS, PANAYOTACOS DESCRIBED AS UNHELPFUL RECENT REFERENCES TO FEDERATION BY TURKISH UN REPRESENTATIVE OLCAY AND EMPHASIZED GOG'S DESIRE FOR EARLY RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. HE ADDED THAT PARTITION OF ISLAND WOULD NOT BE A SOLUTION, BUT A DISASTER, AND THAT ONLY BASIS FOR LASTING SETTLEMENT WOULD BE A SOVEREIGN, UNITARY, INDEPENDENT STATE.

3. IN RESPONSE, STABLER WELCOMED REPORT THAT GOG IS WILLING TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH TURKS ON AEGEAN DISPUTE AND EXPRESSED USG HOPE THAT ISSUE WOULD BE RESOLVED AMICABLY THROUGH BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. CONTINUATION OF DISPUTE, HE SAID, WOULD ONLY WORK TO DETRIMENT OF NATO ALLIANCE AND GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS. ON CYPRUS, STABLER STATED IT WAS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS BE RESUMED WITHOUT EACH SIDE'S TRYING AHEAD OF TIME TO DEFINE MEANING OF EVERY WORD USED TO DESCRIBE BASIS FOR TALKS. ON BASIC ISSUE, STABLER INDICATED USG REMAINS IN FAVOR OF SINGLE, SOVEREIGN, INDEPENDENT STATE. KISSINGER

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